

# Traffic Stop Leads to Arrest of Laurel Man- Seaford

**Seaford, DE-** Delaware State Police arrested **Patrick E. Stephenson, 35, of Laurel**, on weapon, drug, and traffic charges following a traffic stop Wednesday afternoon in Seaford.

On August 4, 2021, at approximately 4:20 p.m., troopers on patrol in the area of Baker Mill Road observed a Ford F-150 pickup truck operating on the roadway with an expired registration. A traffic stop was conducted on the vehicle, and contact was made with the operator, Patrick Stephenson. A computer inquiry revealed Patrick had an active capias for failing to appear in Justice of the Peace Court #4. He was taken into custody without incident, and an inventory search of the vehicle was conducted prior to being towed. Located in the Ford was drug paraphernalia, approximately .014 grams of heroin, and a large machete.

Patrick was transported to Delaware State Police Troop 5. Once the trooper removed Patrick from the back of the patrol vehicle, a used hypodermic needle was located shoved in-between the rear seat cushion where he was seated. Due to Patrick displaying signs of driving under the influence of drugs, a DUI investigation ensued. Patrick was charged with the following crimes:

- Tampering With Physical Evidence (Felony)
- Carrying a Concealed Deadly Weapon (Felony)
- Possession of a Controlled Substance
- Driving Under the Influence of Drugs
- Possession of Drug Paraphernalia
- Expired Tags

Patrick was arraigned in the Justice of the Peace Court #2 and released on a \$3,600.00 unsecured bond.

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal  
Heather Pepper

Released: 080521 1050

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